

The State of Women Veterans' Health Research: Results of a Systematic Literature Review

Evidence Tables

Table 4b. Evidence Table of Psychiatric: <i>Prevalence and Characteristics</i>						
Author	Women Veteran Specific?	Sample characteristics	Sample size [N]	Design	Main measures	Description
Levitte, 1995 (151)	Yes	Convenience sample of patients seen in a psychiatric consultation in the emergency room from a single VA between 1987 and 1991	150 women; two control groups of men with 150 each	Observ. Study- Asses risk or prognosis	Demographics, chief complaints, psychotic symptoms, recent substance use, psychiatric diagnoses	Compared characteristics of male and female veterans using the psychiatric emergency room at the Portland VA. Women were younger, more likely to be divorced, had more anxiety or psychotic symptoms, and were more likely to be diagnosed with depression or borderline personality.
Davis, 2003 (152)	Yes	Sample of women veterans who had received care from the VA Puget Sound Health Care System between 10/1/96 and 1/1/98	1257 women veterans	Observ. Study- Assess risk and prognosis	Demographic characteristics; substance abuse; cigarette smoking; drinking patterns; mental health symptoms including PTSD	Evaluated the prevalence of substance abuse and psychiatric disorders in the sample of women veterans. 29.1% reported past year cigarette use and 31.1% reported drinking problems. 59% of women under 35 screened positive for smoking, problem drinking or drug abuse. Screening positive for a psychiatric condition was associated with substance use.

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Bader, 2001 (94)	Yes	Convenience sample of patients from a VA women's health clinic in 1999	209 women veterans	Observ. Study – Assess risk and prognosis	PRIME-MD-PHQ – screen for mental disorders	Evaluated the prevalence of mental illness and impairments in social and occupational functioning. 45% of women screened positive for at least one mental health disorder and 46% for 2 or more co-existing disorders. Women younger than 50 years and those with a service-connected disability were more likely to have a psychiatric disorder.